

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-19 are pending. Claims 20-26 have been added. Claims 1-26 remain in the case for reconsideration. Reconsideration is requested. No new subject matter has been added.

### ***Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112***

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for depending upon itself. Claim 17 has been amended to claim dependency on claim 16. Claim 17 now allowable under 35 U.S.C. 112.

### ***Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102***

Claims 1, 5, 7, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fitzgerald, Publication number US 2001/0023454 A1, hereinafter referred to as Fitzgerald.

### ***Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103***

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fitzgerald.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 9-19 are allowable. Claims 20-26 include some of the same limitations similar to claims 9-19 and are therefore also allowable. The Examiner has stated that claims 2, 3, and 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2, 3, and 4 have been so rewritten and are therefore also in condition for allowance. Claim 1 has been rewritten to include the limitations of allowable claims and therefore claim 1 and dependant claims 5-8 are also allowable.

**CONCLUSION**

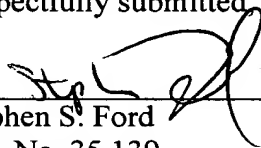
For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-26 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.



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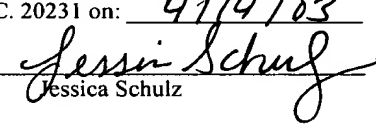
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Respectfully submitted

  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231 on: 4/14/03

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